

THE RIO NEWS.

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VOL. XIII.

RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 5TH, 1886

NUMBER 4

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Paulo branch) 11:43 a. m.; São Paulo (Per. S. P. R. Rio R. R.) 6
p. m.; Downward: leaves São Paulo 6 a. m.; Lafayette 7:30 a. m.;
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5:30 p. m.; Cachoeira 6:00 p. m.; Downward, leaves Cachoeira
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arriving at Barra 2:14 p. m. and at Rio at 5:30 p. m.
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first going to Entre Rio and the second to Barra da Piraia
CANTAGALLO R. R.—Leaves Niterói (Sant'Anna)
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Return train leaves Macuco 8:15, Cordeiro 9:10 and Nova
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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY
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of the month.

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Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily coffee reports from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 5th, 1886.

THERE is a report to the effect that the present ministry is preparing a bill for the extinction of slavery within a period of five years, which bill is to be presented at the next session of the General Assembly. Nothing is more improbable! There is not an abolitionist in the cabinet, nor is there a man who honestly sympathizes with the cause of abolition. The premier is a man who once made an after dinner speech in which he advocated abolition, which speech he afterwards coolly repudiated with the excuse that a man should not be held responsible for after dinner utterances. When we see a genuine abolition measure originating from Barão de Cotejipe, we shall then believe that a good omelet can be expected from bad eggs. We do not believe that the present ministry will do one single thing to advance emancipation unless driven to it by popular clamor.

THE general elections have resulted in an overwhelming conservative victory, the probabilities being that the liberals will not have 20 votes in the next Chamber. The final result in many districts is not yet known, and in others a second election is to be held because no candidate obtained a majority. The causes of this overwhelming defeat of the liberals are many, but chief among them may be noted the disorganization manifested during the last session, the failure to realize the many reforms promised, the dissensions regarding the question of abolition, and the utter lack of a clean-cut, progressive programme. While in opposition the leaders of the party were aggressive and were not afraid of demanding needed reforms, but the moment they took office their courage failed them and they had nothing to offer but delays and palliatives. Although they had many of the ablest men in the country in their ranks, they had no man who was both a leader and a statesman. Whether the conservatives will do better, time will tell. The real differences between the two parties are almost indistinguishable, and so far as political principles are concerned they may be expected to deal with public affairs very much as their predecessors have done. There may be exceptions, but they will be due to individuals rather than to the party.

DURING the past week several alarming telegrams were received from the River in regard to diplomatic difficulties between the Argentine Republic and Uruguay, but at the last moment the news seems more pacific

in character. It would seem that Uruguay complains of the hostile expeditions from Argentine into Uruguayan territory, and of a generally unfriendly feeling toward her. This, as a matter of course, the Argentines deny, and out of this, in great part, the controversy arose. Both countries being on the eve of a presidential election, are not averse to a little bluster, but probably neither of them cares to come to actual blows. More than this, the certainty that Brazil will intervene in favor of Uruguay in case of actual hostilities, must have a decided influence in preventing the Argentines from proceeding to extremities. Uruguay is at present the "sick man" of South America, and both Brazil and the Argentine Republic have an eye upon the estate. This little anarchy is therefore at liberty to bluster about at will, knowing perfectly well that either one of her big neighbors is always ready to take her part against the other. No one can foresee just when such a difficulty will be precipitated, and for that reason both countries are compelled to remain in a state of jealous watchfulness. It is a pity that some strong power will not interfere to put down the political despots of Uruguay, who really represent a very small class, and establish there a good liberal government. There are foreigners enough in the country for this, providing they could once get the supremacy. Could this be done, the chief disturbing element between Brazil and the Argentine Republic will be removed, and the prospects of both countries will be materially changed for the better.

THE water supply of the city is rapidly becoming a question of alarming importance, for it has become so reduced through long drouth and bad administration that we are actually on the verge of a water famine. On the 1st of January the total supply, as published in the *Jornal do Commercio*, was 84,896,614 litres. From that day until the end of the month there was a steady falling off in this supply, the total on the 31st being 35,874,458 litres, which shows an aggregate decrease of 49,022,156 litres or an average daily decrease of 1,581,359 litres. Should this rate of decrease continue uninterrupted, in twenty-three days the supply of this city will be totally exhausted. Of course, we do not anticipate such a calamity as this, but then there are others impending which we can not escape if this state of things continues much longer. If will require such a decrease for only a few days more to entail great suffering upon the people, out of which trouble will surely spring. The mob will fight for water as quickly as for bread. Then the sickness that must result must also be considered. Fortunately the sanitary condition of the city has been sufficiently good for many months to keep the death rate down to a moderate figure thus far, but we can now expect no further advantage from that. Already yellow fever has gained alarming proportions, the deaths in January amounting to 119. Without heavy rains at once we can hardly hope to escape a severe epidemic. The question to be immediately considered, therefore, is not Dr. Freire's specific, or Dr. Maximiano's nostrum, or the cleaning out of a few dirty streets, or the purchase of a few more streams for the augmentation of the water supply two or three years hence; the first work to be done is to stop the waste in the present supply and to secure a more uniform distribution. We have already called attention to the abuses in the distribution of water, the illegal excess given to certain favored individuals, the waste in certain places, and the general disorganization of the service. The minister of agriculture has recently done a very praiseworthy act by

stopping street sprinkling and ordering the water carts to be used in distributing water to the poor. We are certain that he feels the importance of the emergency, and that he will not rest until other steps are taken to stop waste and improve distribution.

THERE is probably no country in the world where the inequalities of taxation are greater than Brazil, and that in great part, perhaps, for the simple reason that the country is ruled by one dominant class and the masses are shut out from any real participation in its administration. While the rich planter pays no taxes whatever on his extensive estate, or the capitalist no imposts on his government bonds, the poor laborers are caught on every side and are made to pay taxes immeasurably out of proportion to their means. A recent example of this was the attempt to make the market gardeners pay a heavy rental for shelter tents at the market, the privilege for which had been conceded by the municipal council for a handsome sum. Another occurred three or four years ago when a regulation was adopted obliging porters, who carry burdens on their heads in the streets, to pay a license tax of 75. There is not a porter, or carter, in this city who does not pay a heavier tax in proportion to his means than any planter in the country. And now comes another illustration—and one which ought to make the cheeks of every thoughtful Brazilian tingle with shame. On the 31st the *Pris* states that 74 Italian boot-blacks had appealed to the central immigration society for protection against an extortionate tax which the municipal council proposes to impose upon them. They state that in 1884 they paid a tax of 39\$ each for the places occupied in the street by their chairs, license, number and stamps. In 1885 this tax was increased to 109\$; and now it is proposed to make it 209\$! Just think of it! 209\$ tax on a poor, ragged boot-black, whose net earnings for the year would probably not pay the half of an average alderman's cigar bill! Such a tax is not merely an imposition; it is a crime! It is immeasurably higher than the taxes imposed upon the liquor and cigar shops of the city, or upon any other vice which should be heavily taxed in the interests of society. If the municipal council of this city can find nothing better to do than this raking the gutters for revenue, they had better retire from public life. The earnings of the poor are small enough, God knows; let the tax-gatherer's hand be kept away from them. Their lives are none of the brightest, and they know infrequently enough what it is to be well sheltered and well fed. Let them keep what they can get, and if the aldermen must meddle with them let them devise ways to increase their earnings instead of robbing them of the little they have.

ASIDE from the immorality of permitting artificial wines, spirits, liqueurs and mineral waters to be manufactured by certain parties in this city and then sold as imported articles, and aside from any question of protecting a national industry in so doing, there is one other phase of the question which seems to have been quite overlooked. The recent dismissal of the president of the board of health who had been unusually active in trying to suppress this questionable industry, and the recent decisions of the minister of empire, manifestly in favor of the manufacturers—perhaps counterfeiters would be a more exact term—leads to an opinion that the government proposes to permit this dangerous industry to be carried on without restraint. If this supposition be true, and should this policy of protecting

and encouraging a spurious industry be carried out, the results can not be otherwise than most disastrous to the country. Not only will public health be endangered and important commercial interests prejudiced, but a possible genuine industry of real value to the country will be crushed in its infancy. Already in various parts of the country—in Minas Geraes, São Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul—wine production is slowly becoming a very promising industry. We have seen wines produced in São Paulo of fine quality and flavor, much better in fact than most of the imported wines. This is notably true of some wines produced near the provincial capital and in the Tietê district. The Rio Grande wines are also said to be excellent, and of good flavor. These wines are pure and wholesome, and their production now affords occupation for many industrious people, besides promising to soon become an extensive and flourishing industry. If, now, the government desires to bestow its protection upon a national industry, here is one legitimate in character and advantageous in every respect. Between it and this spurious industry of making counterfeit wines from rum and drugs, there can be no comparison. It should be borne in mind, however, that if the manufacture of these artificial wines is permitted to continue as before, the grape wine industry will not be able to compete, and will not therefore be developed. As against mixtures of water, cheap rum and drugs, there can be no honest competition, and the sooner this fact is recognized the better. The only conditions under which their manufacture should be permitted—if at all—are those of rigid fiscalization, a heavy tax, and obligatory brands stating where made and the ingredients used. If this is properly done, the national wine industry will then be developed on its own merits, but never as long as French, Spanish, Portuguese, and even Tietê wines can be manufactured and sold in this city as the genuine articles.

THE POPULATION OF BRAZIL.

Our esteemed colleague of *Le Brésil*, of the 5th ult., has undertaken to prove that the editor of the *Revue Sud-Américaine* is wrong in estimating the present population of Brazil at 12,000,000, and with the unforeseen result that he has got completely lost in his own figures. Quoting the percentage of increase given in the finance report of 1884—which is always a risky thing to do—he employs 5.7 per cent per annum as the average rate of increase, and with this figures out the actual population of Brazil in 1884 as 17,000,000. The absurdity of such calculations is so evident that a serious discussion of them ought never to be required, but unhappily the majority of men are accustomed to accept figures without the slightest question and will therefore be deceived by statements of this character.

In the absence of census reports, and even of a trustworthy estimate as a starting point, it is a matter of extreme difficulty to make anything like a rational calculation on the present population of Brazil. According to official statements, the population of this country in 1817 was 2,985,000, of which 1,167,000 were slaves. From that time up to 1872 no census was taken. In 1872 the first and only census of the present reign was taken, from which it appears that the total population of the empire, including slaves and Indians, was 9,930,478, which shows a total increase of 232.67 per cent., or an annual average of 4.23 per cent. for the 55 years since 1817. This most Brazilians consider too small a rate, and it is not uncommon to find estimates of 10 per cent. added to this total as the actual population of Brazil in 1872.

In our opinion, either the census of 1817 was too low*, or else that of 1872 was considerably above the true population. No one will deny that the United States affords a fair illustration of the maximum rate of growth for a large country, and there the annual average in any decade has never but once (1800-10) exceeded 3.6 per cent. On this point Gen. Francis A. Walker, superintendent of the last census, says:

In a new community, where land is abundant and fertile, and its acquirement is facilitated by legal provisions for registration and transfer; where the people are mainly agricultural; where the habits of living are simple, and the absolute requirements of the family are few, a population of European stock may increase, decade after decade, at the rate of 25, 28, or even 30 per cent. in ten years without additions by immigration.

It is even possible that, under circumstances exceptionally encouraging the growth of population in a State having large bodies of uncultivated lands, an increase of 33 or perhaps 35 per cent, wholly irrespective of immigration, might take place in ten years. . . . Any gain much above the ratio here indicated, [1790 to 1820, viz.: 31.1, 36.3, and 33.1] however, is scarcely credible. The circumstances attending the life of any community must be highly exceptional, and the community itself must be of very restricted numbers, to render possible a more rapid rate of increase without accessions by immigration.

With all these favoring conditions, and with an immigration amounting in the aggregate to 10,138,753 in the sixty years 1820 to 1880, the highest rate of increase for any one decade was 36.38 per cent. For the first ninety years the increase for each ten years, according to actual censuses, has been as follows:

decade ending	increase per cent.	decade ending	increase per cent.
1800.....	35.16	1850.....	35.83
1810.....	36.38	1860.....	35.11
1820.....	33.06	1870.....	22.65
1830.....	32.51	1880.....	30.66
1840.....	33.52		

In view of these results, which have been drawn from censuses taken every ten years, and which in recent years have become very complete and perfect, how is it possible for Brazil to have a rate of increase of 4.23 per cent. per annum during a long term of years, much less to have the rate claimed by official reports and *Le Brésil* of 5.7 per cent. During these years, Brazil has had no immigration to speak of, probably not one-twentieth of that entering the United States, her Indian population has been decreasing, and the conditions of life have been far from favorable to a rapid increase of population in many of the most populous sections of the country. And yet a rate of 5.7 per cent. is claimed! Where is it obtained? On what authority can such a claim be based? Does any one believe that Brazil has been increasing more rapidly in population than the United States? And if not, where are the proofs that *Le Brésil*'s estimate of 17,000,000 for to-day is correct? Even admitting the rate indicated by the increase of population between 1817 and 1872, the total population at the end of 1884 lacks over two millions of the estimate fixed by our Paris colleague.

It must be considered that during the first half of the present century the introduction of African slaves into Brazil added largely and rapidly to the population, but this increase was in great part offset by the terrible mortality among these same slaves. They were cheap and their substitution was easy, and therefore, according to no less an authority than Senator Christiano Ottoni,

* Walsh says: "In 1811 an incorrect census was taken of the whole country, when the inhabitants were said to amount to three millions, and those of Rio to 46,944.—*Notices of Brazil*, Vol. I, p. 467.

According to Ewbank, Councillor Veloso estimated the total population to be 4,395,231 in 1819.

Armitage says: "At the close of the last century, the population might be estimated at about three millions, six hundred thousands; of whom, about two-fifths were negro slaves.—*History of Brazil*, Vol. I, p. 8.

their lives were "recklessly sacrificed to excess of work." Even admitting that large permanent additions were made to the population by the slave trade down to 1850, or even to 1855, it is still inferior to immigration in the United States as an element of increase. And, moreover, whatever its value in this respect, that value no longer exists.

At the present time the population of Brazil depends solely upon its natural increase, aided by an immigration of about 20,000 per annum. And that increase, according to a very high authority, will not exceed from 25 to 28 or 30 per cent. in ten years. Taking the medium rate of 2.8 per cent. per annum, and accepting the total given by the 1872 census as a basis,—which is certainly a high rate when we take into consideration all the conditions of life which affect the increase of population—we have an estimated population of 13,267,118 for the end of 1884, instead of the 17 millions claimed by *Le Brésil*. And at the present time the total will amount to a little over 13½ millions.

In our opinion the actual population of Brazil will not reach the total obtained through these calculations, and for the reason that the assumed rate of increase is too high and that the census of 1872 furnishes an exaggerated basis from which to calculate. No one who travels through the interior can fail to be struck with the thinness of population. One may travel for miles through what are known as settled districts without seeing a single habitation. And when it is remembered that the settled portion of the country is a comparatively narrow belt along the coast, with here and there a detached settlement in the interior, there can be no other conclusion than the one here drawn.

PAYMENT OF IMPORT DUTIES IN GOLD AND THE EFFECT ON EXCHANGE.

To the Editor:

Sir.—The above matter is so important to all having business relations with Brazil, and particularly to importers, that perhaps you will allow me, as a member of this class, to make one or two comments on your leading article on the subject, in your issue of the 24th inst.

I fear very much that you exaggerate the beneficial effect on exchange of the rumored alteration when you predict that "the payment of duties in gold, by relieving the exchange market of government necessities, would almost immediately cause an advance in rates." You go on to explain that "duties as paid, in coin or its equivalent in bills of exchange, would be forwarded to the treasury, and furnish the fund from which would be supplied the payments due in bullion to foreign creditors. The treasury," you continue, "would no longer have any occasion to appear as a taker of exchange, payment of which must be made in currency, and that its withdrawal from the market would at once cause rates to advance to be incontestable."

But, in drawing this conclusion, do you not overlook the fact that this gold or exchange, delivered to the government as duties, would have to be paid for in currency by importers, and that as a consequence the private demand for exchange or gold would be increased by quite the amount of the decrease in the government demand? Now, so long as the extent of the demand remained unaltered, the effect of the government merely not appearing as a taker could not be very important.

However, in another respect the proposed payment of duties in gold might be expected to work in favor of exchange. Any such plan would without doubt amount to

an actual increase in the tariff, at least so long as exchange remained low; and if there resulted from this an increase in the gross amount of duties collected, its influence could not but be favorable to exchange. The amount raised in import duties decreases just by so much the buying power of consumers, and consequently the remittances on part of importers; and, when taxation fully suffices to cover the public expenditure, it should follow, in normal times, that private demand for exchange will be limited to such a point that, together with government demand, it will not exceed the value of exports, expressed in the amount of bills on London. Unfortunately we have seen the reverse of all this for many years past. There have been constant deficits, met by borrowing or, worst of all, by issues of paper, and the natural result has been a declining exchange, with only occasional short-lived reactions when a foreign loan allowed the government to suspend their remittances, or even to draw on London.

But if it must be admitted that the augmentation of import duties would tend to benefit exchange, it remains to be considered whether the proposed change would be a satisfactory method of effecting that augmentation.

It would certainly be highly convenient to the government to be able to rely on a steady sterling revenue sufficient to cover its foreign payments. But although with the proposed system the medium of payment would be free from fluctuation yet the amount of revenue would become more than ever unreliable, for this reason that, with duties in gold, a sudden fall in exchange would check importation very much more sharply than even at present. The proposed change would also in this way increase the speculative character of import business; but besides adding to the importer's risks, it would augment to a really serious extent the time and labor, both private and official, connected with every duty payment however small. Now, by all the rules, this extra risk and time and labor must ultimately be paid for by consumers and is in effect so much value lost between consumers and the government, the latter getting no benefit therefrom.

It appears, therefore, that payment of duties in gold would, under the circumstances, be uneconomical, and that even such a simple expedient as an increase in the additional duty would be for various reasons greatly preferable. But it would doubtless be better and more scientific to revise the tariff, increasing the duties only on such articles as could support additional taxation, without much diminishing consumption, while avoiding the farther protection of such national manufactures as can only substitute imported goods at a sacrifice of the public revenue and without a corresponding saving to consumers.

In advocating an increase of duties in any shape, I am well aware of the many strong objections against it; but if expenditure can not be reduced so as to be met by the revenue, it would seem that some form of increased taxation is the only sound expedient.

Apologising for asking so much of your valuable space, I remain, Sir,

Yours truly,

IMPORTER.

Rio de Janeiro, 30 January, 1886.

By the Report of the Comptroller of the Currency for 1884, we find that during the year ending Nov. 1, one hundred and ninety-one banks have been organized, with an aggregate capital of \$16,042,230, and circulating notes have been issued to them amounting to \$3,866,230. At the end of December, 1882, the total number of banks and bankers in the United States was 7488, with a total capital of \$717,318,822, and their total deposits amounted to \$2,902,522,245.

BRITISH EDUCATION AUXILIARY FUND.

During the past year 18 scholars attended the school assisted by this Fund, 13 of whom paid the usual fees, and 5 were admitted free. The average attendance was about 85% of the open school days.

Since September last school has been held in a room most kindly lent for the purpose by Messrs. Laranjã Silva & Co., owners of the "Alliança" cotton mill in Laranjeiras.

Receipts and expenditure during the year were as follows:

Receipts.	
Balance from 1884.....	322\$080
Subscriptions.....	792 000
Pupils' fees.....	372 000
	1,486\$080

Expenditure.	
Teacher's salary, tram-fares.....	858\$000
.. bounts from pupils' fees	96 500
Rent of room, 1st Jan. to 7 Sept.	165 000
Cleaning and sundries.....	22 000 1,141 500
Balance to 1886.....	344\$580

Rio de Janeiro, 30 January 1886.

JOHN R. STATHAM,
Treasurer.

THE CITY'S WATER SUPPLY.

The severe drought which has been experienced in this city during the last two months, broken only by a rain storm at the end of December, has aroused not a little anxiety in regard to the public water supply. The following is the daily supply from all public sources as published in the *Journal do Commercio*. The figures will be of interest to our local readers, as showing how sensitive this supply is to the varying conditions of the weather, and also how steadily it has fallen off during last month of unbroken drought. The population dependent upon this supply is about 300,000.

December 1885		January 1886	
date	litres	date	litres
1.....	64,385,682	1.....	84,896,614
2.....	64,545,517	2.....	64,382,754
3.....	65,278,777	3.....	64,077,726
4.....	64,153,307	4.....	68,001,266
5.....	60,759,997	5.....	59,594,602
6.....	78,245,396	6.....	65,249,802
7.....	109,460,849	7.....	95,110,251
8.....	89,501,152	8.....	76,711,991
9.....	84,127,882	9.....	62,095,648
10.....	71,987,694	10.....	78,234,787
11.....	67,067,146	11.....	75,581,372
12.....	63,982,316	12.....	71,960,350
13.....	62,367,333	13.....	66,345,194
14.....	65,428,032	14.....	62,245,348
15.....	65,997,172	15.....	60,375,625
16.....	65,893,372	16.....	61,661,269
17.....	62,647,318	17.....	55,136,515
18.....	58,622,282	18.....	53,524,618
19.....	56,788,077	19.....	52,655,350
20.....	55,375,048	20.....	50,949,248
21.....	53,112,539	21.....	48,402,657
22.....	52,705,053	22.....	47,137,150
23.....	53,712,388	23.....	46,009,538
24.....	52,155,028	24.....	45,069,378
25.....	47,816,588	25.....	43,235,344
26.....	47,887,986	26.....	41,819,314
27.....	47,434,186	27.....	42,168,854
28.....	48,587,206	28.....	49,299,610
29.....	46,616,844	29.....	39,650,619
30.....	63,785,594	30.....	37,433,538
31.....	105,241,536	31.....	35,874,458

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

From the Buenos Aires Herald, January 16th.

—The Montevideo port authorities have resolved to establish quarantine for four days on all steamers from Rio Janeiro and two days on those from southern ports.

—The inspector of railways recommends as the best route for the Pacific railway the line from Mendoza, by Uspallata, to Santa Rosa de los Andes; preferring this to the line from San Juan by Los Patos road to San Felipe in Chile.

—The custom house of the interior received the following amounts during the year 1885:—Victoria, \$26,965.37; Gualeguay, 101,379.87; Paso de los Libros 16,927.87; San Lorenzo, 2,499.54; Zárate, 12,863.79; Alvear, 7,698.69; Concordia, 459,293.44; Villa Constitución, 444.45.

—Lieut. Chaneton has telegraphed to the minister of war that the gold washings found at Cape Virgenes, Patagonia, are of great importance, and that according to authorized opinions, they are richer than the mines of Brazil, Australia, and California.

—Lieutenant Casanova will leave to-day for Tuyu, with two fishing boats and some fishermen, to make an attempt to establish a fishery on a large scale near that place. The intention is to fish for black and white curbin, which will be salted on the spot, and sent here for sale at low prices.

—It is estimated that the total cost of the sanitary works will be \$50,000,000. The works yet to be finished are the Riachuelo syphon, the Quilmes tunnel, the water works reservoir in Calle Córdoba and the house sewers. These last will cost at least \$20,000,000, of which \$2,000,000 will be paid by the government and the remainder by the proprietors.

—The following is the arrangement which will be made in reference to the Paraguayan debt. The capital will be reduced to one half, which will immediately bear interest at two per cent. The coupons in arrears (for 11½ years at 8 per cent) will be cancelled and land certificates will be issued in exchange, at the rate of 150 acres for every £100 of interest.

—The national office of work placed during December 4,816 immigrants in various parts of the republic. Of these 473 were sent to the interior by means of the free passages given by the river steamboat companies. 6,328 immigrants arrived in Santa Fé during the year, but there is still a large demand for labor in that province.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Guaraniguetá, São Paulo, was recently visited by a very severe hail storm, which caused considerable damage.

—The December receipts of the Espírito Santo postoffice amounted to 316\$929, and the expenditures to 1,445\$297.

—During the half year ending December 31st last, the province of Espírito Santo received 74 immigrants, and lost 48.

—The Paraná custom house receipts in December amounted to 38,949\$691, against 47,031\$388 in the same month of 1884.

—Five aldermen of the municipality of Pará were suspended from office on the 28th December, and are to be prosecuted.

—The Campinas branch of the Casa Bancaria da Província de São Paulo was formally opened for business on the 28th ult.

—The number of slaves aged 65 years and over in the district of Pirahy, Rio de Janeiro, is stated to be 599. One must have died.

—There was a fight at Lençóis, Bahia, during the recent election, resulting in the killing and wounding of several individuals.

—The village of Mura, province of Pará, was attacked by Carichaná Indians last month and five persons were killed and several wounded.

—The December receipts of the Rio Grande do Sul custom house amounted to 397,588\$866, against 392,535\$221 in the same month of 1884.

—The December receipts of the Victoria, Espírito Santo, custom house amounted to 23,883\$751, against 8,984\$563 in December 1884.

—The total receipts of the Pará custom house during the past year amounted to 7,083,621\$699, against 8,079,664\$885 during the preceding year, showing a decrease of 96,043\$186.

—A Rio de Janeiro journal hears that the dealers in cattle and butchers of Parahyba do Sul are getting so disproportionately rich, that they have agreed to reduce the price of beef to 360 rs. per kilo.

—The Ceará provincial assembly has recently imposed a tax of 500\$ on all sellers of non-catholic books. Is this the toleration guaranteed by the constitution and so frequently glorified in colonization propaganda abroad?

—On the 28th 200 coffee samples, of 6 kilos each, from the Campinas regional exposition were forwarded to Rio to be sent on to the New Orleans exposition. As Brazil's day is March 3rd, there is little prospect that these exhibits will get there in time.

—There was trouble at Uberaba during the recent elections, the conservatives and liberals not being able to cast their votes in the same place. The result was two election lawsuits, and two polling places. The liberal candidate shows the highest score.

—The Bank of Brazil has recently sold a good coffee plantation in the municipality of Piracema, São Paulo, containing 80,000 coffee trees, half of them young, for the sum of 36,000\$. The plantation was well equipped with machinery for cleaning coffee, and had 12 slaves besides.

—We learn that the trains from the coal mines in the Imbituba station on the D. Theresia Christina line will shortly be in operation. The mining company's tramway and inclines are completed and the first run of coal from the pit-mouth to the station was made on the 18th ult.

—Our esteemed colleague of the *Correio de Santos* is having trouble with the types, for they will make him sometimes say what he did not write. When Dr. Julio has won a little more experience as an editor, he will learn to be more patient with the errors of compositors.

—The Bahia medical school recently graduated 106 young doctors.

—It will cost just 99\$980 to repair the roof of the establishment where the delegate of the captain of the port at Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, functionates. What could have become of that old *vintem*?

—The president of the province of Rio de Janeiro on the 29th ult. informs the commandant of the police that dry-goods for the use of the corps must be bought equal to sample, even if the offers do not refer to French cloth, but in that of native manufacture. Protect home industries, by all means.

—A Rio de Janeiro journal asks the government to look at the Laceray district of Niteroy, where it is charged yellow fever is increasing. To give force to the appeal our colleague states that money cannot be lacking for 20,000\$ is to be paid for a part of a *chacara* (site) of which the cost of the whole was only 6,000\$.

—A São Paulo merchant recently sent a 50\$ treasury note, from which a corner was missing, to the sub-treasury of that city for exchange. The note was genuine and the number was intact. The treasury officials, however, quietly confiscated the note because of the defective corner, and refused to issue a new note in its place. No comment is needed!

—Prices current of slaves seem to vary in Minas Geraes. On the same day the minister of agriculture acknowledges receipt of dispatches from the president of the province advising the emancipation, under the fund, of 7 slaves in one district at a cost of 4,880\$, 2 in another for 2,000\$, 13 in another for 6,600\$, 8 in another for 4,400\$ and finally 4 in another for 880\$.

—The little village of S. José do Rio Pardo, São Paulo, was recently the scene of an exciting quarrel between the *sub-delegado* of police and the parish priest. The former had ordered the arrest of the latter, but with the result that one soldier and several citizens got hurt. The priest was armed with a double-barreled shot-gun, and spoke more eloquently and forcibly with it than he had ever done in all his life before.

—The regular whipping exercise on the plantation of Major João Franco near Campinas, S. Paulo, on the 30th ult., was interrupted by an unexpected circumstance. When a slave named Paulo was called out to take his tation of lashes, he resented by drawing a knife and attacking the overseer, seriously wounding him. Three others then broke from the file and with Paulo fled to the woods. They were captured the following day.

—A Rio de Janeiro provincial paper having criticised some credit operations, the secretary of the province replies that 650,000\$ will be raised from capitalists and a bank upon bills at 6 months paying 6 per cent per annum interest, and that these operations are strictly within the provincial budget laws, which authorized such transactions to meet a recognized deficit in the finances of the province.

—The slave movement in the province of Espírito Santo, according to the *Jornal do Commercio*, was the following:

Registered under the Rio Branco law	21,653
Arrived since	5,652
Departures	2,495
Deaths	3,799
Emancipations	2,082
Remaining June 30th, 1885	19,118

—The regional exhibition at Campinas was formally closed on the 26th ult. There was a procession of all the societies and operatives in the city, followed by appropriate addresses at the exhibition buildings. The president of the province, Councillor João Alfredo, was present and delivered an address on behalf of the province. The exhibition had been open just one month, and, being the first of the kind ever held there, attracted considerable attention.

—The treasurer of the Amazon company met with a serious loss on the 12th ult. He had to deposit a certain sum in the Banco do Pará on that day, and went to the sub-treasury for the subsidy due the company, which he received. This amounted to 34,000\$, and was made up into a single package. On his way back he stopped in several shops, and with the result that when he arrived at the bank his package of money was missing. It was gross carelessness, to say the least.

BAHIA BRITISH CLUB.

On the 5th ult. this club gave an entertainment that was largely attended and went off extremely well. The entrance to the club was illuminated by gas, and the pathway by Chinese and other lanterns. At 8:30 the dramatic part of the *festa* began, with the farce *Forerward Plunder*, which was followed by *Should this meet the eye*. The performers were Messrs. Mizon, Colbourne, Peters, Cartwright, Orton, Rossiter, Wilcox and Bell, and all did very well. Dancing followed, the saloons being tastefully decorated with flags, palm leaves, etc. Mr. Hope, treasurer, and Mr. Wilcox, secretary, deserve all praise for their efforts to make the entertainment the success it was, and dancing was kept up until between 4 and 5 a. m.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The December receipts of the Pará tramway line amounted to 26,362\$900.

—The September traffic receipts of the D. Pedro II railway, were 1,159,176\$501 and expenses 547,759\$153; balance 611,417\$348.

—Frequent landslides on the "Rio Grande a Bage" railway are reported because of the heavy rains recently experienced there.

—Steel rails were first made in 1866 in Germany whilst England followed in 1872, soon overtaking and leaving behind the German output.—*Exchange*.

—The D. Pedro II railway has been authorized to reduce freight on cattle classified as of the 3rd class of table No. 6. Why not say what third class cattle of table No. 6 are?

—We are informed that the Moggyana company has telegraphed to the United States for duplicate parts of the bridge section which recently fell into the Rio Moggy-guaiss during construction.

—An old gate-keeper on the São Paulo railway was killed in São Paulo on the 28th ult. He had given the signal that everything was clear, but failed to get the gates open before the train struck him.

—The first locomotive for the Brazil Great Southern Railway was shipped last week by Messrs. Black, Hawthorn & Co., of Gateshead-on-Tyne, who have equipped several of the Brazilian main lines with engines.—*Railway Times*, 26 Dec.

—By an imperial decree of the 23rd ult. a privilege was granted to the Norte company now building a railway around the head of the bay to Magé, to build a branch to Tijuca. The starting point in this city is to be in the vicinity of Rua Mariz e Barros. The privilege is for 70 years.

—The John Bull locomotive the ancestor of all the locomotives now in use on American railroads, has been placed on exhibition in the historical hall at the National Museum, Washington. It was made in England in 1845 by George Stephenson, and is the original copy sent to American machinists.—*Railroad News*, Jan. 9.

—It is announced that the Morris Kohn restaurant cars will commence running on the Dom Pedro II railway at an early day this month. The convenience will be great without doubt, but nail some means are found to better ventilate the cars and shut out the dust it will not be as complete as the travelling public can desire.

—The *Railroad News* of the 2nd ult. gives the following amounts, raised in London during the year 1885 for Brazilian railways:

Bahia and S. Francisco	£ 51,200
Brazil Great Southern, Delh.	235,000
Minas Central, Delh.	161,125
Moggyana, Delh.	399,652
Total	£ 846,377

—The balance sheet of the Corcovado railway, dated 31st December last, does not show much result, the net profit carried forward amounting to 19,327\$249. The capital is 400,000\$ and 304,000\$ are due here and abroad. The cost of the road and rolling stock was 567,000\$ and the pavilion and hotel on the Corcovado represent 31,000\$. Real estate appears for 82,000\$, preliminary expenses (*despesas de instalação*) 26,000\$.

—O *Pais* of the 31st ult. says the minister of agriculture has replied to the appeal of the Natal and Nova Cruz railway in these terms: From sec. 5, clause 3, of decree No. 6,995 dated August 1st, 1878, is deduced the contrary to that asked for by the company, because therein it is clearly established that *after the railway, or any part thereof, is opened to traffic, only coal, or other combustible for use in the ships or the traffic on the said road, will enjoy free entry, during 20 years; consequently the free entry of all material for the road bed, telegraph line, bridges, etc., is only in force during construction.*

—On the 17th the minister of finance sent to the Treasury agency of Rio Grande do Norte the following communication: The Tribunal of the Treasury recognizing the appeal made by the Imperial Brazilian Natal and Nova Cruz Railway Company, Limited, as to the payment, to which it was obliged, of the tax on trades and professions from 1881-82 to 1884-85 at the rate of 75\$50 per kilometre, under the disposition of the decree dated 15th July, 1874, and table C, annex of that dated 20th July, 1878, conforming to the 6th disposition at the end of the same table, has resolved to correct the decision appealed from in order that from the appellant may be collected one half of the sum, in conformity with table C, 1st and 6th accessories (*adventuras*) of the second named decree, as also the proportional tax of 5 per cent, on the lucrative value of the establishments in which the said company works, in conformity with table D, 3rd class, and order of 8th May, 1882. We sincerely trust that the interested parties may understand the matter, for we confess that we do not.

—The São Paulo company has obtained permission from the government to increase its warehouses at Santos, which had become too small for their traffic.

—São Paulo has at last another one of the modern conveniences of railway travel—a railway book-stall at the Luz station. The stand is kept open only at train hours, and is supplied with English, French, Portuguese and Spanish works. This is probably the only railway station in Brazil which is so supplied, for which the public is indebted not a little to the managers of the English line.

LOCAL NOTES

—The new ironclad *Aquidaban* arrived here from Europe on the 29th ult.

—Decree No. 9,549 dated 23rd January last promulgates the new hypothecary *regulamento*.

—A Brazilian cynic says "The heart of woman is an ale-house, where one enters and calls for 'Love for one!'" Great Caesar's ghost!

—On the 23rd ult. the health board (*Junta de Higiene*) was dismissed and a new one appointed. Artificial wines seems to have played "gooseberry" among the doctors.

—The police have ordered that the theatres commence operations at 8 o'clock. As a funny colleague points out, the hour of commencing is of less interest to theatre-goers than that of finishing the *festa*.

—The president of the municipal chamber had his pocket picked of his watch while in the procession in honor of St. Sebastian, Rio's patron saint. St. Sebastian does not seem to have much effect on pick-pockets.

—The minister of agriculture on the 27th ult. unless the director of the D. Pedro II railway to send him a list of the residences and quantities of coffee received by dealers during the first six months of 1885. What is up?

—The minister of agriculture congratulates the Centro da Lavoura e Commercio upon the result of the coffee and sugar exhibition at Wellington, New Zealand. What had the Centro to do with the matter? Perhaps Messrs. John Petty & Co. can furnish information.

—While the daily papers fill columns and columns with this blessed adulterated wine business, they find very little room for the question of that quite as necessary liquid, water. When we have people dying of thirst in our streets, perhaps some one will enquire about that Pedregulho reservoir business. Until then, patience.

—The boot-blacks are applying to the "Sociedade Central de Imigração" for protection. In 1884 their city licence was 39\$, and increased to 190\$ in 1885, now 209\$ is demanded. At 100 reis per pair, the unfortunate *engraçados* must clean the boots of 2,090 customers per annum; or if one-legged men appear, more in proportion.

—The *World* of December 16th notices the arrival at Pan, for the particular purpose of sport, of a young Brazilian, Duke de Perdifumo. The title is far from inappropriate, if the young gentleman be a Brazilian, for the dukes of the *terra de Santa Cruz* have pretty well all lost their smoke. Caxias is dead, and Saxe is no longer one of us.

—The treasury agency of Paraná has a credit opened of 13,400\$ for the conclusion of the surveys and marking of the government lands which are to constitute the marriage portion of their Highnesses the Comte and Comtesse d'Eu.—*Jornal do Commercio*, 30th Jan. And is it not just about time that these surveys and markings were concluded?

—Dr. Araújo Gôes does not seem to have a high opinion of his colleague Dr. Freire, as to yellow fever inoculation. At a meeting of the Academy of Medicine on the 19th ult. Dr. Gôes said that in Dr. Freire's book he had pointed out errors in microscopy, in moral and pathologic physiology, in *chiquie*, in physics and even in organic chemistry. If this is not enough to make an unprofessional reader's hair stand on end, we give it up.

—On the 30th ult. was published a despatch from the minister of agriculture to the minister of empire in which it is stated that during the water famine, the streets will not be sprinkled [they were never wet], but that the water carts will be stationed in certain parts of the city to meet the necessities of the poorer of the inhabitants of the first city on the South American continent. Remarks are useless.

—We regret to note the death of Rev. James W. Koger, which took place in São Paulo on the 28th ult. Mr. Koger was pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Piracema, province of São Paulo, and was at the head of that Church's mission in this empire. He was still a young man and leaves a wife and children. He had just visited this city, where he preached on the 17th, returning to São Paulo on the 19th. The cause of his death is said to have been yellow fever.

Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Gross Domestic Product by State, 1997-2000,"* <http://www.bea.com/states/gdp.htm>.

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